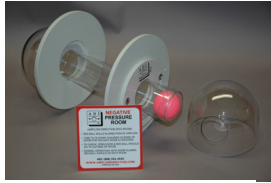


# Airflow Direction Inc.

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[www.airflowdirection.com](http://www.airflowdirection.com)

## ADI TECHNICAL BULLETIN

### ADI'S WISEMAN-TUBE\* & BAULIN-TUBE® (pronounced "ball-in-tube") indicators and the ASHE 2010 Guidelines for Design and Construction of Healthcare Facilities



Model ADI-69-V-N



Model ADI-69-V-P



Model ADI-69-VplusA

**DISCLAIMER:** This bulletin is for information only and is not to be relied upon in making any decisions regarding code issues, which of course should be addressed with your state and local officials, a registered professional engineer, your insurance carrier and any other authority having jurisdiction (AHJ.)

**SUBJECT:** ASHE'S "2010 Guidelines for Design and Construction of Healthcare Facilities" and monitoring room pressure/airflow direction into or out of a room.

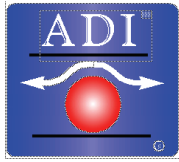
**DATE:** January 26, 2010

**ISSUE:** What sections in the 2010 Guidelines address, and in some cases mandate, airflow direction/room pressure monitoring in Hospitals?

**DISCUSSION:** The American Society of Healthcare Engineering of the American Hospital Association (ASHE), along with the Facility Guidelines Institute (FGI) with assistance from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, has recently published a newer version of the "Guidelines for Design and Construction of Healthcare Facilities", 2010 Edition, ISBN 978-0-87258-859-2. The Guidelines can be ordered at [www.fgiguilines.org](http://www.fgiguilines.org) or calling FGI at 800-242-2626.

In General, airflow direction and room pressure requirements can be found under section 2.1-8.2.1 which states the basic HVAC requirements are defined in Part 6 of the Guidelines:

- Part 6:TABLE 7-1 provides a list of healthcare rooms along with their relative negative or positive room pressure/airflow direction. The list includes Surgery & Critical Care; Inpatient Nursing; Radiology; Diagnostic & Treatment; Sterilizing; Central Medical & Surgical Supply; Service; Support Space.
- In particular, Part 6: TABLE 7-1, footnote "n" addresses that simple visual methods such as smoke trail, ball-in-tube, or flutterstrip shall be permitted for verification of airflow direction. → ADI'S WISEMAN-TUBE\* meets this criteria AND provides a failsafe operational indication!



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## What sections mandate an airflow direction/Room Pressure Monitor?

### **Airborne Infection Isolation Room:**

- Section 7.2.1.a AND section 2.1-8.2.2.1 (2) calls for a permanently installed visual mechanism to constantly monitor the pressure status of the room. → ADI'S WISEMAN-TUBE\* meets this criteria AND provides a failsafe operational indication!
- *By the way:* Section 2.1-8.2.2.1 (3) resolves a long standing issue that if an anteroom is used, the airflow shall be from the corridor into the anteroom and from the anteroom into the isolation room!

### **Protective Environment Room:**

- Section 7.2.2.b AND section 2.2-8.2.2.2 (3) calls for a permanently installed visual mechanism to constantly monitor the pressure status of the room. → ADI'S WISEMAN-TUBE\* meets this criteria AND provides a failsafe operational indication!

### **Combination Airborne Infectious Isolation/Protective Environment Room:**

- Section 2.2-8.2.2.3 (5) calls for two permanently installed visual mechanism to constantly monitor the pressure status of the room to the anteroom and the status of the anteroom to corridor. → ADI'S WISEMAN-TUBE\* meets this criteria AND provides a failsafe operational indication!
- *By the way:* This type of room is setup as a protective isolation room with an anteroom. Section 2.2-8.2.2.3 (4) PROHIBITS reversible switching between an infectious isolation room and a protective isolation room!

It may seem surprising that only three hospital room types appear to mandate monitoring, but because Infection Control and Liability Exposure is significant in Hospitals and Labs, ADI commonly sees the following sales applications for the WISEMAN-TUBE\*:

- Construction Barrier for Demolition & Renovations (negative)
- Infectious Isolation Rooms (negative)
- Protective Isolation Rooms (positive)
- Operating Rooms (positive)
- Pharmacy IV Prep Rooms (positive)
- Bronchoscopy Rooms (negative)
- Endoscopy Rooms (positive)
- Central Sterile Supply Decon Room (negative)
- Central Sterile Supply Clean Storage (positive)
- Medical Gas Storage Room (negative)
- Linen and Dirty Utility Rooms (negative)

*Questions, comments, corrections are welcome. Please email [brian@airflowdirection.com](mailto:brian@airflowdirection.com)*

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